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REMARKSClaim Rejections – 35 USC § 102:

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-8, 12 and 13 are not anticipated by US 2002/0057247 (Lee) because Lee does not disclose each and every limitation of the rejected claims.

For example, Lee does not disclose, “an inverter which is operated in a synchronous mode when the timing signal is received from the inverter control unit, and in an asynchronous mode when the timing signal is not received from the inverter control unit” as recited in claims 1 and 4. In Lee, the B/L CONTROL ON and OFF signals are on or off. An OFF B/L CONTROL which prevents operation of the inverter when off – is not consistent with an inverter “operated in . . . an asynchronous mode.” Since there is no signal, it cannot be said to operate asynchronously, as there is no signal to be considered asynchronous with the “timing signal.” It is merely off. Applicants respectfully submit that it would simply not make sense to a person of ordinary skill in the art for a constant on or off signal to cause an inverter to be “operated in a synchronous mode when the timing signal is received from the inverter control unit, and in an asynchronous mode when the timing signal is not received from the inverter control unit.” Non-operation is not the same as being “operated in . . . an asynchronous mode” as recited in claims 1 and 4.

With respect to claim 4, Lee does not disclose “wherein the lamp emits light in synchronism with the timing signal during the synchronous mode and asynchronously with the timing signal during the asynchronous mode” as recited in claim 4. Lee discusses that when a “liquid crystal display device starts up, the timing controller 100 applies the backlight control signal B/L CONTROL of OFF level to the inverter 700 for driving the backlight 800 during a predetermined time (1 second in the embodiment of the present invention) such that the backlight is not driven and, when the predetermined time elapses, applies the backlight control signal B/L CONTROL of ON level to the inverter 700 such that the backlight is driven.” Paragraph [0105]. In other words, the backlight is not driven and does not emit light when the B/L CONTROL of OFF level is applied to the inverter, much

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less emitting "light in synchronism with the timing signal during the synchronous mode and asynchronously with the timing signal during the asynchronous mode" as recited in claim 4. Applicants respectfully submit that not emitting light is not the same as emitting light "asynchronously with the timing signal."

With respect to claim 8, Lee does not disclose "driving, by an inverter, a lamp in synchronism with the timing signal during a synchronous mode when the timing signal is input from the inverter control unit and in asynchronism with the timing signal during an asynchronous mode when the timing signal is not input from the inverter control unit," as recited in claim 8. As discussed above, The backlight in Lee is either driven or not driven. Lee does not disclose "driving . . . a lamp in synchronism with the timing signal during a synchronous mode . . . and in asynchronism with the timing signal during an asynchronous mode," as recited in Claim 8. The backlight of Lee is not driven at all when the B/L CONTROL of OFF level is applied (paragraph [0105]), much less "in asynchronism with the timing signal during an asynchronous mode" as recited in Claim 8. Applicants respectfully submit that not being driven is not the same as being driven in asynchronism.

Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner allow claims 1, 4 and 8. Dependent claims 2-8, 12 and 13 are also allowable for similar reasons.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103:

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 10, 11 and 14-16 are not obvious over Lee in view of US 2002/013083 (Park) because neither Lee nor Park disclose, teach or suggest all of the limitations of the rejected claims. Moreover, claims 10, 11 and 14-16 are allowable because they depend from claims that are allowable for reasons discussed above.

Applicants respectfully submit that Park does not cure any of the deficiencies of Lee. Park discusses "checking the image signals, and when the image signals are found to be moving pictures, outputting a high or low voltage to the inverter according to whether the image signals require high or low luminance level driving so as to increase or decrease luminance levels of the LCD panel, and when the image signals are found to be still images, outputting a control signal of outputs of a predetermined luminance level." Paragraph [0010]. Park does not disclose, teach or suggest, "an inverter which is operated in a

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synchronous mode when the timing signal is received from the inverter control unit, and in an asynchronous mode when the timing signal is not received from the inverter control unit," as recited in independent claims 1 and 4, or "driving, by an inverter, a lamp in synchronism with the timing signal during a synchronous mode when the timing signal is input from the inverter control unit and in asynchronism with the timing signal during an asynchronous mode when the timing signal is not input from the inverter control unit," as recited in independent claim 8. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that dependent claims 10, 11 and 14-16 are allowable over Lee in view of Park.

New Claim 17:

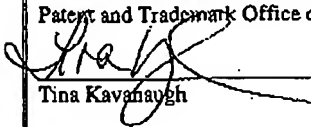
Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner enter New Claim 17. Claim 17 is supported in the specification as originally filed, at least at Original Claim 9. No new matter is added.

Applicants respectfully submit that New Claim 17 is allowable at least because it depends from Claim 8, which is allowable for reasons discussed above. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner allow New Claim 17.

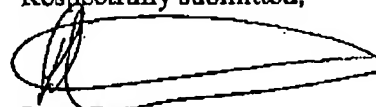
CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims. If the Examiner has any questions or concerns, a telephone call to the undersigned at (949) 752-7040 is welcomed and encouraged.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment of fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-2257.

Certificate of Facsimile Transmission	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being submitted via facsimile (Fax. No. 571-273-8300) to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.	
 Tina Kavanagh	June 30, 2008

Respectfully submitted,


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